AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter.

Claims 1-82 (Cancelled)

83. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a bandwidth allocation manager configured to allocate bandwidth to a plurality of

auxiliary digital transmission channels responsive to at least information received

from a subscriber, wherein each ~~of the~~ plurality of auxiliary digital transmission

channels ~~enable~~ carries video programs with random access ~~functionality~~

functionalities for the video programs transmitted via a plurality of other digital

transmission channels.

84. (Cancelled)

85. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 83, wherein the information received from the
subscriber identifies a level of random access functionality selected by the user for a program
that is to be provided to the user at a future time.

86. (Previously Presented) A digital home communication terminal (DHCT) comprising:

memory configured to store program code; and

a processor that is programmed by the program code to:

provide the user with a first selectable option and a second selectable option

responsive to the DHCT receiving a request from a user for implementing a

random access function, wherein selecting the first selectable option results in

the random access function being implemented after a first time period and

selecting the second selectable option results in the random access function

being implemented after a second time period that is substantially shorter than

the first time period.

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87. (Previously Presented) The DHCT of claim 86, wherein selecting the second option results in additional expense for the user.

88. (Previously Presented) A digital home communication terminal (DHCT) comprising:

    memory configured to store program code; and

    a processor that is programmed by the program code to:

        communicate to the user an amount of bandwidth that has been consumed as a

        result of random access functionality that has been provided to the user.

89. (Previously Presented) The DHCT of claim 88, wherein the amount of bandwidth consumed is communicated via a graphical representation.

90. (Previously Presented) The DHCT of claim 88, wherein the amount of bandwidth consumed is communicated by providing a user with information about fees related to the random access functionality provided to the user.

91. (Newly added) A method implemented by a programmable network manager coupled to at least one server and at least one television set-top terminal (STT) via a bi-directional communication network, the method comprising the steps of:

    allocating a first amount of network bandwidth equivalent to the amount of bandwidth

        required to transmit concurrently a first set of broadcast transmissions of at least

        one video program for the duration of a first time interval with a first start interval

        time and a first end interval time;

    allocating a second amount of network bandwidth equivalent to the amount of bandwidth

        required to transmit concurrently a second set of broadcast transmissions of at

        least one video program for the duration of the first time interval;

    transmitting a first broadcast transmission of the first video program over the first amount

        of network bandwidth during the first time interval;

    transmitting a second broadcast transmission of the first video program over the first

        amount of network bandwidth during the first time interval, the start time of the

second broadcast transmission delayed from the start time of the first broadcast transmission;

configuring the second amount of network bandwidth for the duration of the first time interval exclusively for at least one dedicated transmission of any portion of the at least one video program from the at least one server to the at least one STT;

providing the first and second broadcast transmissions of the first video program to a first STT and a second STT during the first time interval;

receiving a viewer input from the first STT during the first time interval, the viewer input being configured to select a dedicated transmission of the first video program to the first STT; and

responsive to receiving the viewer input, establishing a first dedicated network session between the at least one server and the first STT and providing a dedicated transmission of the first video program to the first STT over a transmission channel in the second amount of network bandwidth for the duration of a second time interval with a second start interval time and a second end interval time.

92. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein providing the dedicated transmission of the first video program comprises a different playback mode of the first video program.

93. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein providing the dedicated transmission of the first video program comprises a different formatted version of the first video program.

94. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein the first video program is provided to the first STT via a tuner in the first STT.

95. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein providing the dedicated transmission of the first video program during the second time interval corresponds to the duration of a presentation of a different playback mode of the first video program.

96. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein the second start interval time is after the first start interval time.

97. (Newly Added) The method of claim 96, wherein the first end interval time is after the second end interval time.

98. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein the second amount of network bandwidth is smaller than the first amount of network bandwidth.

99. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein the stat time of the first broadcast transmission over the first amount of network bandwidth is substantially equal to the first start interval time.

100. (Newly Added) The method of claim 91, wherein a third time interval with a third start interval time substantially equal to the first end interval time and a third end interval time immediately follows the first time interval, wherein the configuration of the second amount of network bandwidth for the duration of the third time interval is different than the configuration for the duration of the first time interval.

101. (Newly Added) A method implemented by a programmable network manager coupled to at least one server and at least one television-set-top terminal (STT) via a bi-directional communication network, the method comprising the steps of:

enabling a first delivery mode and a second delivery mode of a first video program to the at least one STT for the duration of a first time interval with a first start interval time and a first end interval time;

configuring the first delivery mode as a first broadcast transmission of the first video program to the at least one STT for the duration of the first time interval;

configuring the second delivery mode of the first video program as a dedicated transmission from the at least one server to a respective at least one STT for the duration of the first time interval;

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configuring the at least one STT to receive the first video program during the first time interval;

receiving a first input from a first STT at a first input time, the first input being configured to request delivery of a first video program during the first time interval with a first level of random access functionality, where the first level of random access functionality is configured to operate in the second delivery mode;

responsive to receiving the first input, providing the first video program to the first STT during the first time interval via the first delivery mode;

receiving a second input from the first STT during the first time interval, the second input being configured to select a different playback mode of the first video program; and

responsive to receiving the second input, establishing a dedicated network session between the at least one server and the first STT and providing the different playback mode of at least a portion of the first video program to the first STT via the second delivery mode for the duration of a second time interval with a second start interval time and a second end interval time.

102. (Newly Added) The method of claim 101, wherein the first video program is also provided to a second STT in the first delivery mode during at least a portion of the first time interval.

103. (Newly Added) The method of claim 101, wherein responsive to receiving a third input from the first STT for normal playback of the first video program, terminating the dedicated network session between the at least one server and the first STT.

104. (Newly Added) The method of claim 101, wherein responsive to receiving a third input from the first STT, providing a normal playback mode of the first video program to the first STT in the second delivery mode.

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105. (Newly Added) The method of claim 101, wherein responsive to receiving a third input from the first STT for normal playback of the first video program, providing the first video program to the first STT in the first delivery mode.

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106. (Newly Added) The method of claim 101, wherein the first start interval time is after first input time.

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107. (Newly Added) The method of claim 101, wherein the first input time is during the first time interval.

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